



ALEXANDRIA.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 10.

The civil service reform law is a demoralizing humbug, as injurious to those who obey, as it is to those who attempt to enforce it, and necessarily so, by reason of the fact that from the very nature of the case the law is essentially a sham and pretense. Mr. Harrison professes to be in favor of the law, and yet he has just removed the postmaster of New York, who was appointed by a republican President, who is a republican, who was recommended for reappointment by the business men of his city, and who was such a pronounced civil service reformer that Mr. Cleveland retained him in office during the whole of his administration. Now the letter of the civil service law was not broken by the removal referred to, but every reasonable man knows that the spirit of it was; and how can the people be expected to respect the laws when they know that their chief executive officer disregards and ignores the spirit thereof?

No well-informed man denies that the Mormon church is a church, and that Mormonism is a religion. And yet some northern republican newspapers say Utah should be kept out of the Union because Mr. Cannon, in a recent conference of the Mormon church, said, "the day is near at hand when this work will fill the whole earth; we must not be discouraged or cast down," as such a sentiment shows that their people are not law-abiding citizens and therefore not fit to govern themselves. These newspapers forget that the constitution of the country declares that no religious test shall ever be required, and that Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. But northern republicans always have had a "higher law" than the highest of their country, a law that is agreeable to their own evil desires, no matter how unjust it may be to others.

By the existing tariff, which some people want continued, five cents worth of castor oil costs fifteen cents, a dollar's worth of rice costs \$2.13, a dollar's worth of common window glass costs \$2.06, a dollar's worth of common earthenware costs \$1.55, a dollar's worth of woolen clothing costs \$1.61, and so on through nearly all the list of the necessities of life. And yet there are white men in Virginia who favor the protective tariff, and, s'rauger still, even Mr. Harrison says, "hopes to break the solid South by favoring southern protectionists."

THE APPOINTMENT, first, of Mr. Bates, the author of a recent offensive anti-German article, as one of the Samoan commissioners, and second, of Mr. Sewall, who was removed by Mr. Bayard from his place as consul general to Samoa on account of his strong anti-German feeling, to be disbursing agent at Berlin, where the commissioners referred to will soon meet, doesn't strike a straight-eyed man as at all indicative of a favorable solution of the Samoan imbroglio.

OF COURSE the Washington Press, black republican, opposes the appointment of Mrs. Gen. Jackson as postmistress of Richmond, on the ground that the office should be given to a republican partisan.

FROM WASHINGTON.
Special Correspondence of the ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 10, 1889.
A sad and disappointed republican office-seeker from Pennsylvania, sick at heart with hope deferred, on his way home this morning, stopped at the Capitol to see a friend, and while there said that Mr. Harrison did not deem himself at all beholden to the republican voters for his election, but, being a strong Presbyterian, believed that he was preordained and predestined to be President, and had expressed himself to the effect that his majority would have been greater than it was had it not been for the questionable action of some of the "workers" in his party who are now demanding pay for their services.

Ex-Congressman McKenzie of Alexandria, who has been sick, was well enough to come to this city yesterday. He was at the Ebbitt House, which, strange to say, has become the headquarters of the office-seekers, black as well as white. Negroes with shiny silk hats, and canes and with cigars in their mouths, occupy many of the seats on the office floor of the hotel, and talk loudly of the work they performed in their "electorates." Some of them seeing Mr. McKenzie asked him to endorse their applications, and otherwise so annoyed him that he exclaimed "My!" and, turning to the friend who accompanied him, said, "Let's get out of here."

Ex-Senator Riddleberger is still here. He is by no means pleased with the claim of General Roller to be the director of the dispensation of the federal offices in his district, and will oppose that claim to the utmost extent of his ability. General Roller has recommended W. W. Logan for postmaster at Woodstock, but Mr. Riddleberger has recommended Mr. Licklider, who now holds the place and has held it for the last eighteen years.

Mr. Craig, who is an applicant for the place of U. S. district attorney for the western district of Virginia, is here to-day. He says the dispensation of federal patronage in Virginia has been suspended until his party there shall come to some agreement, but that he believes if he were given the place he is applying for, and Mr. McCaul, the internal revenue collectorship of the Lynchburg district, that agreement would soon be effected.

Ex-Auditor Brown Allen, of Virginia, is also here. His application for the place of postoffice inspector for the Virginia district is signed by about twenty republican Senators, but as he is known to be thoroughly identified with the Mahone faction, and as his appointment would be looked upon as an endorsement of that faction, the anti-Ma-

honesties here say he will not be appointed. The suit for damages from the Four-Mile Run disaster was in progress in the circuit court of this city again to-day. The examination of John Bruce, who was the engineer of the Midland train at the time of the accident, was concluded. It is not expected that a verdict will be rendered to-day.

The day after Major Hains drove over the road from the Aqueduct Bridge to Mt. Vernon, Mr. Dungan, of the Alexandria canal, called on him with drawings of the road from the Aqueduct Bridge to the laid out town of Rosslyn, which is southwest of that bridge, to which place he thinks the proposed Mt. Vernon Avenue should first go before it turns south to go to Mt. Vernon. He says he doesn't think the proposed avenue will go through Alexandria.

It has been suggested to the President that before he decides upon the man he shall appoint to fill the place on the Supreme Bench made vacant by the death of the late Associate Justice Matthews, he should consider the fact that the Virginia circuit has not been represented on that bench since the war. A similar suggestion was made to President Cleveland, but was unheeded. It is hardly probable it will be different with a man who agrees with Justice Batchelor, who says his, Harrison's, election "saved the U. S. Supreme Court by keeping from it men who are not veterans of the republican party."

Ex-Congressman Yost, of Virginia, arrived here this morning, he says, on purely private business. Mr. Yost says he called on Mr. Harrison when he was here before and had a very agreeable interview, the impression he derived from which was that the President would take no part in party fight in his State, and would recognize neither faction. Mr. Yost says he believes that his recommendations for office in his district will be adopted by the administration, and has neither seen nor heard anything that tends to shake that belief.

The case of the negro preacher Hearst, who complains that he was made to ride in a Jim Crow car in Georgia, was argued before the interstate commerce commission to-day. Mr. J. B. Cummins, counsel for the railroad company, made an able argument, denying the charge that the accommodations of the section of the car referred to set apart for negroes were not as good as those of the cars occupied by white passengers.

It is said by some of General Mahone's friends here to-day that arrangements are being made for the General's proposed second call upon the President, heretofore referred to in this correspondence.

Maryland M. P. Conference.
The Maryland Methodist Protestant Conference closed at Lynchburg yesterday. The request of Frederick circuit to remain undivided was granted, and that of St. Paul's, Cambridge, to be set apart as a mission refused.

B. P. Truitt, R. S. Williamson and E. H. Vandye were elected to orders.

A standing committee was ordered to inquire into the title of church and parsonage property and to perfect those found defective.

Chestertown, Md., was selected as the seat of the next conference.

The report of the conference steward showed that \$158,000 had been contributed for all purposes, an average of \$900 for each member in the district.

The home missionary committee appropriated \$10,000 to mission churches, Centreville, Md., was added to the list and granted \$200.

The overture of the General Conference (that the constitution be so changed as to give power to the Annual Conference to license women to preach was rejected without debate.

Ordination was administered, and after impressive remarks President Strayer read the points.

Rev. L. R. Dyott was returned to this city.

THE WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL.—Governor Lee has issued the following proclamation:

"Whereas, Tuesday, April 30th, is the centennial of the inauguration of George Washington as President of the United States, and Congress having declared that this event in our history should be set aside as a general holiday, and whereas the President of the United States, by proclamation, has recommended the day as a special national thanksgiving day, now, therefore, I, Fitzhugh Lee, Governor of Virginia, do hereby request the citizens of this State to assemble in their respective places of worship upon that day to implore of Almighty God the blessings of peace, progress, and prosperity upon the Republic, whose destinies were first committed to the guardianship of this great Virginian."

"Given under my hand and the lesser seal of the Commonwealth of Richmond this 9th day of April, 1889, and in the one hundred and thirtieth year of the Commonwealth."

"By the Governor," "FITZHUGH LEE."

H. W. FLOURNEY, Secretary.

Homicide in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, April 10.—This morning Wm. Smith went to the house of James Easley in the neighborhood of Ann and Tulip streets, in the upper portion of this city, and began tearing it down, saying he had authority to do so. Mr. Easley warned Smith off, but as he persisted in his work of destruction, Easley got a gun, which was loaded with bird shot, and fired at Smith, the load taking effect in his breast, causing death in a short time. Easley was taken into custody soon after the shooting.

SORGHUM SUGAR.—H. W. Wiley, chemist of the Agricultural Department, has completed his record of experiments in the manufacture of sugar from sorghum. The work at Rio Grande, N. J., was for the purpose of determining whether sorghum sugar could be successfully manufactured on a small scale. Prof. Wiley says he does not see any favorable result coming from the two years' trial, and that the conditions combine to render the manufacture of sugar on a small scale commercially unsuccessful.

I. O. O. F.—The fifty-second session of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows of Virginia began at Danville yesterday. Reports of the grand officers show sixty subordinate lodges in a flourishing condition. A public reception was tendered the delegates at the Academy of Music yesterday and a grand banquet last night.

COURT OF APPEALS YESTERDAY.—Eastern Ice Company against King. Argued by Tazewell Elliott, esq., for plaintiff in error and Edgar Allan, esq., for defendant in error.

Two ministers of the Gospel were actively concerned in tragedies near Navasota, Texas, on Sunday. Rev. K. M. Lawson shot and killed a negro who had stolen several articles from him, and Rev. Hall Miller shot a drunken man who was disturbing a Sunday School meeting.

Fatally Burned.

SHELBYVILLE, Ind., April 10.—Mrs. Geo. R. Sheekles was fatally burned yesterday by her infant daughter. The child died

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The premium on gold in the Argentine Republic has reached 61 per cent.

The Scottish home rule motion in the House of Commons was rejected yesterday.

There are twelve apostles, seventy patriarchs and 3719 high priests in the Mormon church.

The failure of the pearl fisheries of Western India is announced, owing to the prevalence of cholera.

The President yesterday made a number of appointments of district attorneys, marshals, postmasters, &c.

Four freight cars of the P. W. and B. Railroad, loaded with oil, were burned at Philadelphia yesterday.

The Western Union Telegraph Company has a heavy suit in Philadelphia for a blunder in a business message.

A London court has awarded the divorced wife of Dion Boucicault her claims in the proceeds of his British copyrights.

Four Russian officers have made a wager that they can ride on horseback from St. Petersburg to Paris in forty-five days.

The Savannah Cotton Mill, at Savannah, Ga., was burned yesterday, causing a loss of \$100,000. The employees escaped through the windows.

The freight houses of the Boston and Lowell division of the Boston and Maine Railroad in Boston were destroyed by fire yesterday causing a loss of \$500,000.

The proposed scheme to keep Mayor-elect Cregier (dem.) of Chicago, out of his office by having last Tuesday's election declared illegal was not carried out yesterday.

Ye-Sing, a wealthy Chinaman of Denver, was arrested in Chicago yesterday and sent back to Denver on a requisition, he having eloped with Wong Toy, the wife of Chin Poo, a prominent Denver Chinaman.

On Monday a landslide on the Chesapeake and Ohio canal occurred at the "tunnel," about forty miles east of Cumberland, filling the canal four or five feet above the water for a distance of sixty feet. It is mostly boulders of rock, some of them weighing a ton or more.

Mr. Robert Garrett was 42 years old yesterday and was visited at his home by a number of his friends and acquaintances, with whom he conversed rationally and naturally on a wide range of subjects for nearly an hour. Mr. Garrett is under no restraint whatever.

Confederate Memorial day in New Orleans, last Saturday, was celebrated with great pomp. At the foot of the Lee monument Miss Winnie Davis, and Miss Mildred Lee greeted the veterans and received the floral tributes dedicated to the great commander of the Confederate armies.

An old man with a long white beard and very shabby clothes created a decided sensation Sunday in the Methodist church at Dubuque, Iowa. While the pastor was preaching the old man arose from his seat and announced that the world would be destroyed in nine days, and that he was commissioned by the Almighty to declare the news.

Conspicuous among the congressional callers at the White House yesterday were Senators Vance and Deck. The former said he simply called to pay his respects and inform the President that he was sorry to see him in such a position, and assure him that he did everything in his power to keep him out of it. The President appreciated the humor of the remark, and returned his thanks to the North Carolina Senator for his good intentions.

By yesterday's bye elections the control of the next General Assembly of Rhode Island is settled in favor of the republicans. Elections were held in Newport, Bristol and Cranston, and eight places to be filled. The Senate now stands—republican, 25; democrat, 10; to be chosen, 1. The House stands—republican, 34; democrat, 38. The republicans have a majority of eleven on joint ballot, with one Senator to be elected this insuring the election of the republican State ticket, which failed of an election by the people.

The French Chamber of Deputies yesterday discussed the bill prescribing the mode of procedure to be followed by the State while sitting as a court for the trial of Gen. Boulanger. The Chamber rejected all amendments suggested by members of the right. A proposal that a majority of twenty-five of the Senate be necessary to give valid any sentence pronounced upon Boulanger was also defeated. Varrault, Boulanger, Dillon and Rochefort, C. M. of them have been transmitted to every police station in France, together with photographs and descriptions of the persons in question.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

Julio George T. Garrison, of Accomac, has been confined to his bed with severe illness since the trial of Mrs. Virginia Taylor for the murder of her husband.

The State Board of Medical Examiners met in Richmond last night and outlined their work for the examination of candidates which commenced this morning.

Patents were issued in Washington yesterday to Benj. A. Pillow, Richmond, boot or shoe; Edward C. Roberts, Abingdon, wheel hub; John K. Wilson, Farmville, stock car.

During Saturday night, while the storm raged furiously, the cabin of Abram Brown, colored, situated four miles south of Farmville, Prince Edward county, was blown over and took fire, burning him to death.

Col. William Nelson, of Hanover county, the only surviving grandson of Gov. Thomas Nelson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, is expected to take part in the New York centennial celebration.

J. J. Bunting was convicted in the County Court of Northampton county yesterday, on the charge of having employed a man to burn his property in Cape Charles, and his punishment was fixed at five years in the penitentiary.

At a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture in Richmond yesterday, a resolution was adopted instructing the immigrant agent of the State to visit Castle Garden, N. Y., for the purpose of seeing what can be done in the way of inducing immigrants to settle in the State.

In Madison county Friday last G. E. Garth, a prominent citizen, was struck on the head with a club by George Marshall and died from his injuries Wednesday. Marshall claims that during a dispute Garth attempted to cut him with a knife, and that he acted in self defense in using the club.

THE ROSS TRIAL.—The storm Saturday prevented the transmission of the proceedings of the Ross murder trial at Gloucester. C. H. Ott Saturday Ross was examined. His statement was that his wife told him while out walking that Hughes had attempted to violate her person. When he reached the house he went to Hughes' room, pistol in hand, and asked for an explanation. Hughes admitted his guilt and said "Give me the pistol and I will kill myself." Ross said: "No, sir, I will do it myself," and then shot him. It is said that the defense are preparing to use emotional insanity as a plea, should it become necessary to do so.



ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCHES.

The Lord Lonsdale Expedition.

PORT ANGELES, N. W. T., April 10.—The schooner Cumberland, which arrived here yesterday from Alaska, brings news of Lord Lonsdale, who started upward of a year ago on a trip overland to the north pole. Lord Lonsdale and a number of Eskimoes and Indian guides reached Kodiak about the middle of February in a famished and exhausted condition. They came from an isolated mission near the mouth of the Kuskoewin river, which empties into Bristol Bay, and suffered many hardships and privations during the journey of months' duration across the Alaskan peninsula. Lord Lonsdale was severely injured a few days after leaving the mission, having slipped and fallen into a crevasse. His left shoulder was so bruised that the arm was rendered useless and his hip was all but dislocated, incapacitating him from travel on foot. He stated positively, however, that he had had enough of Arctic exploration and would return to England soon.

Train Wreckers.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., April 10.—At different times for a month past obstruction have been placed on the track of the Chicago, Santa Fe and California road near the Illinois river. What might have been a very disastrous mishap was but narrowly averted near Chillicothe. During the past fortnight obstructions have several times been put on the track between Eureka and Knoxville. Last week a track walker was put upon this portion of the line and Monday night he was found lying unconsciously upon the track with a terrible wound in the back of the head. He was fortunately seen by the engineer of a train in time to stop. He had been assaulted, as supposed, by the gang of villains who have been obstructing the track.

The Naval Force at Samoa.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—It is authoritatively stated at the Department of State to-day that the three treaty powers concerned in Samoan affairs—England, Germany and the United States—have reached an understanding by the terms of which they will each keep but one war vessel at Samoa pending the termination of the Berlin conference. The vessel to be sent there by the United States will be the Alert, a 1,000-ton ship.

Election of a Senator.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 10.—In joint assembly at noon to-day the legislature began balloting again for United States Senator and the result in three ballots, the 6th, 7th and 8th, resulted in no election. Another ballot was then taken and it resulted in the election of Nathan F. Dixon, of Westerly, by the following vote: Dixon, 51; Wetmore, 41; Arnold, 4; Colt, 2; Spooner, 1.

Railroad Accident.

CHICAGO, April 10.—An accident occurred on the Chicago, Santa Fe and California Railroad near Joliet this morning. It resulted from a collision between a passenger and a freight train. Three persons were killed outright and several were more or less seriously injured.

Personal.

VIENNA, April 10.—Emperor Francis Joseph will visit Berlin on August 10.

LONDON, April 10.—The Queen will make a visit to Sandringham, the residence of the Prince of Wales, at King's Lynn, near the end of this month. Her Majesty will remain there for four days.

Attempted Murder.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 10.—An attempt was made Monday night by a young man to murder banker J. S. Lockwood. Lockwood was shot behind the ear. His wound is not serious. The would-be assassin has not been apprehended, and nothing can be learned of him.

The Pensacola Floated.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The commandant of the Navy Yard has reported to Secretary Tracy that the Pensacola is floated and has not been strained. The accident will not cause over a week's delay in the work of repairing.

Stabbed by Burglars.

CHICAGO, April 10.—Theodore and Jacob Huebner, brothers, engaged in the grocery business on Maxwell street, were seriously stabbed last night in a desperate encounter with burglars. The burglars escaped.

Arrested.

DENVER, Col., April 10.—Frank H. Xuma, man, at one time acting paying teller of the Merchants' National Bank, Providence, who disappeared with \$22,000 of the bank's funds, has been arrested here.

Fire.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 9.—General James Longstreet's residence in the eastern portion of Gainesville, was destroyed by fire yesterday. Loss \$10,000.

At the White House.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—There was a decrease in the number of the President's callers this morning.

M. Pasteur's method for the extermination of rabbits in Australia by inoculation with virus of chicken cholera is a failure.

MARRIED.

In Washington, on Monday, April 9th, by Rev. C. Herbert Richardson, of the McKendree Church, WM. H. CONKLE to ELLA MUIR, daughter of the late John Muir, of Alexandria, Va.

RESPECTFULLY announce my candidacy for re-election to the office of Tax Collector for the Northern District, subject to the primary election to be held in May. Allowing me past record to speak for itself, I respectfully solicit your support.

JOHN T. HILL, ap10

BLACKSMITH AND WHEELWEIGHT SHOP FOR RENT

In Buckland, Prince William county, Va. ap9 tw2w JAMES W. HUNTON.

OVER STOCK OF BONNET, SCARF AND JERSEY PINS is the largest and best selected ever shown in this city. Call and inspect. ap2 E. C. ACTION, 606 King street.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR.

Mayor Downham last night transmitted the following message to the City Council:
To the Honorable the City Council:
Gentlemen—The city charter makes it the duty of the Mayor to communicate, from time to time, to the City Council such information, and recommend such measures, as the interests of the city shall in his judgment, demand. In accordance with this requirement, I have the honor to present for your consideration matters that in my opinion are of vital importance to the interests of our city and its citizens. First, The matter of INTERNAL OR STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

It is conceded by all who have given the matter any consideration, that the principal drawback that we have is the fact that our streets are, in certain sections of the city, at times almost impassable, and as is usually the case in cities, these streets are adjacent to the depots where persons who are traveling (perhaps seeking investment) are sojourning.

There is an abundance of capital in the country seeking investment, and all they desire is to be assured from the security offered that they will receive the interest agreed upon, and at the time it is agreed upon, and ultimately the principal.

The improvements I suggest will, there is no doubt in my mind, become a source of much more revenue in a very few years, than will be sufficient to pay the interest on the bonds or scrip issued.

First, Because of the enhanced value of real estate benefited thereby and secondly, because of the sources hereinafter named.

From comparison of the reports of the Auditors of several cities to whom I wrote for information, I find that the present system of assessing taxes is much less per capita on the assessed value of real and personal property, than that of other cities of larger and smaller populations.

I would recommend three series of bonds or warrants be issued. First, Internal improvement or street bonds or warrants in such sums, and at such times as the money can be expended immediately after a system of improvements may be agreed upon.

I enclose herewith a letter and blank warrant kindly sent me by his Honor, the Mayor of Buffalo, N. Y. I have requested copies of the acts of the City Councils of Buffalo and the Legislature of New York referred to on the warrant, but as yet have not received them.

It will be observed that the city of Buffalo has \$2,000,000 of these street improvement warrants or street obligations in circulation, most of which are held in New York City and are sought after as investments.

You will perceive that not over \$20,000 are now redeemable in one year. I think this system a good one, and would recommend the necessary acts be presented to the legislature when it assembles.

We might make our redemption \$5,000 or \$10,000 per annum, in issuing warrants of this kind. We could place them as we expended the money, and thereby save a vast deal of interest on the money.

I hope your honorable bodies will see the importance of this special legislation at once. Open out and extend every street in the corporation to the corporate limits, and grade and pave them with some improved pavement of which there is plenty in use; give work to our mechanics and laborers, and it will only be a few years before, with the enhanced value of real estate, the revenues will be enough to pay the interest and provide a sinking fund for the principal.

In fact this system would save the city a great deal of money, as the amount expended last year for sewerage amounted to \$3,000.

With proper legislation enactments similar to those presented to your honorable bodies from New York, I would guarantee to place all the money at any time, in such amounts as may be required, to be issued and called in five years or sooner, and I believe with the enforcement of the present laws as far as they apply to property owners and their liability to pay one-third each side the street for improvements, that all bonds or certificates of indebtedness issued by the city could be easily and readily placed with the contractors who do the work.

I have received daily letters of inquiry and circulars from different parts of the country, stating they have heard we contemplate some street improvements. (These have been more frequent since the inauguration; no doubt some who were here and saw our streets think it time.)

During the past year \$50,000 was expended in buildings in this city, principally homes for the poor, and if they were built with home capital. Nothing of a speculative character in these investments, but let Council adopt the measure I here suggest, i. e., open and grade the streets from Franklin street to the city limits, and extend and grade to the western line, and you will see more transactions in real estate in the next two years than there has been in the past twenty.

Property will change hands, as in Washington, now, in my opinion, is the time for us to make an effort to induce capitalists to look at this city. With the prospect of the Mt. Vernon Avenue, passing through our city, we should inaugurate and adopt some system of improvements commensurate with these cities that have taken the initiative but a few years since and are now reaping the reward of their enterprise.

Your honorable bodies will see the importance of this matter, and I am confident you will enable us to at once improve our highways.

SEWERAGE.
2d. Another important matter for your consideration is that of a system of sewerage.

I am of the opinion, that the subscription that can be secured from the property owners and tenants, adjacent to the lines where sewers may be run, will very materially assist in the cost of a proper sewer, and if the revenues are used to create a sinking fund, the amounts so received if used as judiciously as are the funds set aside for the redemption of our present bonded indebtedness, would soon become sufficient to reimburse the city for the cost of the sewer.

I would suggest that the privilege of tapping the sewer be sealed according to the capacity of the pipe used, and the size of buildings which are to have its use; enact ordinances requiring persons to use them and abandon the system now in use, that of wells and boxes.

One barrier sewer on King street would be all that would be necessary, and the connections on the cross streets could be made with terra cotta piping of the requisite size.

This system would not materially interfere with our present system of surface drainage. Of course there should be drainage enough led into the sewers so as to flush them, and keep them clean. One great objection that capitalists have with desire to construct tenements for an investment in our city, is the fact that they cannot build them with modern improvements (without great risk) because of the lack of sewerage facilities; this difficulty removed, there would soon be tenement houses for rent with all the modern improvements.

I would suggest your honorable bodies will see the importance of this legislation and direct the City Surveyor to report, together with estimates of the cost, a complete system of sewerage for our city.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.
A subject which should receive your consideration is that of electric lighting of our streets. It has now become settled, that the best manner of lighting streets is by electricity and the necessity of introducing this system in our city to be used in conjunction with our inadequate supply of gas, becomes every day more and more apparent.

Few cities of our population have so closely adhered to the old system of gas light as we have. We can attribute to the fact, that the city owns the Gas Works and is willing to deprive our citizens of the improved system for the sake of a few dollars revenue received from the Gas Works.

It is a fact admitted by those who are competent to judge, that the present system of gas lighting is totally inadequate to supply the demand satisfactorily to the consumers, and as our streets are extended, and more consumers added, it must get worse, particularly, as the gas pipes were laid many years ago, they must in the nature of things be now almost destroyed by rust, and like the pipes of the Alexandria Water Company, must be renewed in a few years.

I would suggest the introduction of electricity to light the streets, and abandon the street lamp system. The present gas pipes would furnish sufficient capacity to supply the present consumers and those who, in addition, might desire to enjoy the luxury and the public buildings, for some years to come, unless our city should be so afflicted with a spirit such as we read of in Eureka, of this State, or Birmingham, Ala., when if such is the case, there need be no fear but what suitable lights will be provided for all purposes.

I presume a contract might be made with some reliable electric light company, that would establish a plant here conditionally, of a capacity to furnish a superior light, that the city might obtain sun per light or annually, with the privilege of furnishing to such consumers as might desire their light, and when satisfactory, could be bought within a certain period of time or a sum stipulated in the contract. I am in receipt of almost daily of circulars and letters of inquiry from manufacturers in the country stating they

have heard we were going to introduce electric light, and desiring they may be allowed to submit estimates.

I am very sorry a previous engagement deprived me the pleasure of accompanying the committee who visited Hagerstown, Md., at the request of Mr. Cox, to see the plant in operation there.

I have as yet made no investigation into the merits of any of the different patents, but am of the opinion that the one we should adopt is one that will enable us to use the best of our efforts for motive power, and as electricity is power that can be stored, and as our electric light I presume will be run in connection with our Gas Works, such a plant would be most desirable.

I trust your honorable bodies will see the importance of the introduction of the electric light, and at your earliest convenience enact such legislation as will enable us to keep pace with cities of much less population, and whose natural facilities are not to be compared with ours.